

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 EB-04 TRSE-00 INR-05

SP-02 CIAE-00 IO-06 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /044 W

-----004713 312052Z /66

O R 311947Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1063

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 14298

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH GW

SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND: APPROACH TO
POTENTIAL DONORS

REFS: (A) STATE 206797; (B) BONN 13169;

(C) BONN 13389; (D) STATE 199049

SUMMARY. FOREIGN OFFICE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JESSER REITERATED FRG SUPPORT FOR UK/US RHODESIAN INITIATIVE BUT SAID THAT FINAL WORD ON FRG CONTRIBUTIONS TO ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND (ZDF) WOULD DEPEND ON CABINET-LEVEL CONSIDERATION. THE FRG WAS ALREADY COMMITTED, IN PRINCIPLE, TO PROVIDE DEVELOPMENT AID TO INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE, BUT DECISIONS WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE CONSIDERATION, INTER ALIA, OF SPECIAL GERMAN OBLIGATIONS TO NAMIBIA. JESSER READILY AGREED THAT FINANCIAL OBSTACLES SHOULD NOT BE MADE THE SOLE STUMBLING BLOCK TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA. END SUMMARY.

1. THE JOINT US/UK DEMARCHE WAS MADE ON AUGUST 31 TO FOREIGN OFFICE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JESSER (IN CHARGE OF NEAR EAST AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS) BY UK POLITICAL COUNSELOR WHITEHEAD AND US ACTING POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF. US CHARGE AND UK AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED THIS WOULD BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE LEVEL FOR PRESENTING OUR REQUEST CONCERNING THE ZDF, IN THE ABSENCE OF STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL IN POLAND.

2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS WE HAD BOTH RECEIVED, WHITEHEAD TOOK THE LEAD IN WHAT WAS CHARACTERIZED THROUGHOUT AS A JOINT APPROACH. HE BEGAN
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THE DISCUSSION BY THANKING THE FRG FOR ITS CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR EFFORTS IN RHODESIA (REPORTED REF B) AND ADDED THAT WE WERE NOW SPECIFICALLY INTERESTED IN INFORMING THE FRG ON THE ZDF AND SEEKING GERMAN SUPPORT OF THE FUND. WHITEHEAD AND EMBOFF PRESENTED IDENTICAL AIDE MEMOIRES BASED ON REFTEL (A), AS WELL AS DOCUMENT "PROPOSALS FOR A SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA." WHITEHEAD POINTED OUT THE CHANGES IN THE LATTER DOCUMENT FROM THE VERSION PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED (PARAS 11.A, 11.E, 11.F) AND CONFIRMED THAT ANNEXES A, B AND C WERE IDENTICAL TO THOSE THAT THE UK EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY PASSED TO THE FRG (REFTEL C).

3. DR. JESSER RECALLED THAT STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL HAD ALREADY INFORMED AMBASSADOR STOESSEL AND BRITISH CHARGE BULLARD OF FRG SUPPORT OF THE UK/US INITIATIVE. REGARDING FRG CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ZDF, JESSER SAID THAT THIS WOULD TAKE SOME TIME SINCE IT MUST BE DISCUSSED WITH SEVERAL OTHER MINISTRIES. OUR PROPOSAL WOULD BE STUDIED CLOSELY AND, HE VENTURED, WOULD GO "WITHOUT DOUBT" TO THE FRG CABINET FOR FINAL DECISION.

4. IN PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS, JESSER
NOTED THAT THE FRG WAS ALREADY COMMITTED, IN
PRINCIPLE, TO PROVIDE DEVELOPMENT AID TO INDEPENDENT
ZIMBABWE ON THE SAME BASIS AS IT HAS TO OTHER NEWLY-
INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES. EMBOFF AGREED THAT
OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL WOULD PROBABLY BE PROVIDING
BILATERAL AID BUT CALLED ATTENTION TO THE
HOPE EXPRESSED IN ANNEX C THAT THE GREATER PART OF EACH
COUNTRY'S CONTRIBUTION SHOULD BE DIRECT TO
THE ZDF. AS FOR THE SIZE OF A POSSIBLE FRG CONTRIBUTION,

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

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AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 14298

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JESSER REMARKED THAT DM 250 MILLION SEEMED TO BE "A
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LOT FOR A COUNTRY OF 65 MILLION PEOPLE." HE ADDED
THAT THE FRG WOULD ALSO HAVE TO VIEW ITS ACTIONS VIS-A-VIS
THE ZDF IN THE CONTEXT OF WHAT IT WILL BE REQUIRED TO
DO FOR AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA. THE FRG HAS OBLIGATIONS
AND BURDENS TO NAMIBIA BOTH FOR HISTORICAL REASONS AS
WELL AS FOR APPROXIMATELY 20,000 ETHNIC GERMANS WHO ARE
RESIDING THERE. JESSER READILY ACCEPTED THE POINT
MADE BY WHITEHEAD, HOWEVER, THAT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN
RHODESIA SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO FOUNDER OVER QUESTIONS
OF MONEY.

5. JESSER ASKED WHAT OTHER GOVERNMENTS WERE BEING
APPROACHED ABOUT CONTRIBUTING TO THE ZDF. NOTING THAT
WE HAD NO FORMAL LISTING, WE READ HIM ADDRESSEES OF
REF (A) AND UNDERTOOK TO SEEK CONFIRMATION THAT
THIS CONSTITUTED THE COMPLETE LIST.

6. ASKED ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR TOMORROW'S TALKS IN
SALISBURY BETWEEN SMITH AND FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN AND
AMBASSADOR YOUNG, WHITEHEAD CONCEDED THAT THEY BODED TO
BE TOUGH BUT THAT THE PRESS WAS BEING PERHAPS A LITTLE
"OVER GLOOMY." TALKS WITH THE FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS AND
THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAD BEEN MORE POSITIVE THAN THE
PRESS HAD MADE OUT. JESSER SAID HE SAW LITTLE REASON
FOR OPTIMISM BUT THAT HE HOPED ALL WOULD INDEED GO
WELL TOMORROW.

7. IN FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION, FRG DESK OFFICER FOR
RHODESIA TOLD EMBOFF THAT DEMARCHE WOULD BE
REPORTED TO FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER IMMEDIATELY, BUT
THAT ANY FURTHER RESPONSE WOULD MOST LIKELY
BE DELAYED UNTIL RESULTS OF OWEN/YOUNG TALKS WITH
SMITH HAD BEEN ANALYZED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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